THE

EXECUTION

OF

Henry Berry,

Who was Executed at

TYBURN

On *Fryday* the 28. of this Inſtant *February*, 1678.

For aſſiſting in the murther of

Sir *Edmund-bury Godfrey* one of his Majeſties Juſtices of the Peace for the County of *Middleſex*, late of St. *Martins* in the Fields.

WITH

An Account of his Deportment in *Newgate*, and at the place of Execution, with ſeveral other remarkable Circumſtances.

With Allowance.

LONDON: Printed for *D. M.* 1679.

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THE EXECUTION OF Mr. HENRY BERRY AT TYBURN.

STill does unexpiated Murder cry, and Justice is not satisfied; Offended Heaven is displeased when its rebellious Creatures dare so barbarously misuse the *Image* of their Creator, and without a Cause inhumanely to violate their proper kind, though far more noble in Degree and Order: The stamps of Justice and of Mercy, fixed in the deep Center of a braver Soul, might sure have awed their Cruelties, and turned their Bloody Hands

from that polluted Sin, leſt gaſtly horrour, when too late for a retreat, ſhould ſeize upon their drooping Spirits; all clothed with ignominious ſhame, and drive them headlong to the place from whence their wicked Counſels were at firſt derived: For this Gygantick Crime o're-tops the Cedars, whoſe tall Branches ſweep the Clouds; nay more, the Stars and that Immortal Throne, to which the Souls beneath the Altar cry for Vengeance to be heaped upon the ſhedders of their guiltleſs blood, from which had they the VVings of Eagles, or ſhould take the Mornings dawn they could not flye; from which, if Hills would cleave, and gloomy Caves retain, or ſollid Rocks incloſe, they could not hide: Its Bolts are ſure, and levell'd Vengeance never aims amiſs: The Almighty God is juſt in all his wiſe decrees, and turns the malice of pernicious men upon themſelves; pulls off the Masks that veil'd their black Deſigns, and lays them open to the VVorld; moſt plain and undiſguiſed, whoſe horrid forms may make all Chriſtians ſtart, whoſe tender

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Conſciences look pale at the approach of monſtrous ſin, foul Treaſons, *Maſſacres*, and whatſoe're ſuch Diabolick Wits can tune in dreadful Notes, thereby to make their Helliſh Harmony complete, and ſtring the diſcordant numbers of contagious pride, diſdain and envy, mixed with pious ſhews to blind the Vulgar Eyes, and gain their fond Applauſe for the promotion of their deſperate rage, but ſeldom does it long eſcape unpuniſhed, as may in this more plainly be expoſed to the conſiderate thoughts of all impartial men. Thus *Henry Berry*, (ſeduced by the impious but crafty perſwaſions of thoſe Aſſaſſinators, and chief Plagues of *Chriſtendom*, who, like *Egyptian Locuſts*, where they come deſtroy the Virtues that adorn the Souls of men, and in their ſtead infuſe prepoſtrous Poyſons) was prevail'd upon to defile himſelf with innocent Blood; in order unto which he the ſaid *Henry Berry*, with ſeveral others, two of which already have received their juſt rewards for their notorious Crimes, the horrid Fact was for murdering Sir *Edmund-bury Godfrey*, a Juſtice, (but at their hands no Juſtice found) the Circumſtances are ſo amply known I need not much enlarge; but yet, to ſatisfie the curious Reader, I will inſert the Heads of ſome particulars. On *Saturday*, the 12*th* of *October* 1678. Sir *Edmund* was watched from his Houſe, by ſome of the murderous Crew, and the remaining part of that day

day dogged about from place to place where e're he went, but when Night approach'd (the fitteſt time to act ſuch cruel deeds) as he return'd homewards through the *Strand*, when he came to the *water-gate* of *Somerſet*-houſe (by ſome of them who ſtood there for that purpoſe), was intreated to come in, and part, by his Authority, a certain Fray; a Counterfeit to trap his life which was before deſigned, where he, by much perſwaſions, enter'd never to return alive; theſe barbarous men thus having got their Prey ſecure, more ravinous than Tygers, taking their opportunity, twiſted a Handkerchief about his Neck [illegible] caſt and pulled him down behind the [illegible] not dreaming of ſuch Cruelties) and violently ſtrangled him, regardleſs of Juſtice or of *Mercy*.

But in ſhort time their cruel darings came to light, though acted in the darkeſt ſhade, for which they apprehended were by Juſtice, ordered to the County Goal of *Newgate*, from whence they were brought to *weſtminſter*, where they upon a fair Tryal were found guilty of this horrid murther, and received Sentence to return to the place from whence they came, and from thence to the place of Execution, there to ſuffer for their Crimes, as in that caſe the Law hath provided; the which on *Fryday* the 21*th* of *February*

bruary, two of them, *viz. Green* and *Hill*, fell before offended Juſtice, and this day being *Fryday* the 28*th.* of the ſame Inſtant, *Henry Berry* aforeſaid was executed likewiſe; there being a number of Conſtables and Watchmen warned to guard him to the aforeſaid place, the Keepers and the Sheriffs men likewiſe officiated their ordinary places, the priſoner bei ng ſeated in the Cart about nine or ten of the Clock; his countenance was much dejected, pale, and of a meagre hue, to what it heretofore had been; for he was by Nature of a Sanguine complexion, Corpulent and of a merry temper heretofore: But ſuch a Fate would ſurely change a braver ſoul than his: In the Priſon, vvhilſt he there remained, he demeaned himſelf orderly, eſpecially after the time of his Condemnation, ſhevving very frequent tokens of Contrition and Sorrovv for his great Offences vvhich he had committed.

He vvas dravvn in a Cart vvith tvvo light-coloured Horſes: his Habit indifferently compoſed and moderate; all the vvay he vvas dravvn, vvith erected Countenance, often lifting up his hands and eyes to heaven, vvhich drevv pity from the beholders. When he arrived at the place of Execution, after he had made a Speech to thoſe that vvere preſent, and

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prepared himself for his unhappy end, the Cart vvas drawn avvay betvveen eleven and tvvelve of the Clock, and he, after he had hanged the limited time expressed by the Lavv, vvas cut dovvn and buried.

FINIS.